

Dear Sir:

This Broadcast Flag idea is terrible. It has the potential to outlaw software and hardware which are not being used in any unlawful way. Our country was founded on innocent to proven guilty. Just because I own a computer that has no broadcast flag detection doesn't mean I am doing anything illegal. Same for software. I fear those who create their own software and those who build their own computers will be unfairly discriminated against and labeled as criminal. This is especially scary for software such as Linux which is all about self-empowerment, society-driven, non-profit, betterment of mankind. A rule like the broadcast flag could do so much damage to those not guilty of any pirating of music, movies, etc. Also it puts a cartel in control of the design and licensing of equipment where they can easily cause grief to those small-time individuals who wish to publish their own material. The hardware/software to do that will be harder to obtain and cost more with mandatory

broadcast flag detection and enforcement. Please do not punish honest people. We don't need handcuffs to continue to be honest. Nor do we wish to pay for them. Or our children.

thank you
Larry Johnson